

Problem: Eastward flow into Bushy Lake is constricted by a accumulated delta sediments, a fence, and a beaver dam.
Opportunity: Restore positive drainage to channel towards lake.

Problem: Bushy Lake and its "fingers" were not created with the intent of creating a dynamic ecosystem. As a result, water elevation is fairly constant, quality and quantity are low, and supply is inconsistent.
Opportunity: Restore natural hydrological processes to the lake to allow it to function more naturally and sustain the wildlife and plants that depend on it.

Problem: Riparian vegetation along the perimeter of the lake, including the "fingers" is limited to narrow, steep banks. Cottonwoods are not regenerating due to a recent fire and unsuitable hydrology.
Opportunity: Reshape the bed and banks of the lake and plant with riparian vegetation that will respond to more natural hydrological cycles.

The 10-acre grass field is used by Cal Expo for overflow parking during the state fair.

Problem: Chicken and Strong Ranch Sloughs carry contaminants from an urban watershed and deposit them in the river.
Opportunity: Create natural channel system from the sloughs to Bushy Lake that will filter contaminants before the water enters the river.

Utility easements restrict the height of vegetation within the corridor.

Access to utility poles and towers needs to be maintained.

The floodplain is host to several Elderberry shrubs that can not be disturbed by restoration activities without mitigation because they host the endangered Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle.

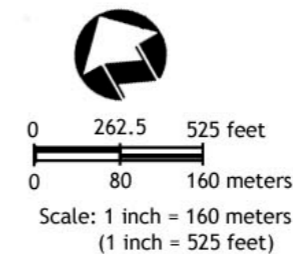
Problem: During overbank flows, Bushy Lake becomes a fish trap as it has no outlet to the river channel.
Opportunity: Excavate a channel from one of the fingers towards the river to provide drainage and allow fish access to the river.

Non-native *Arundo donax* is presently being managed for control. Continued management of this non-native invasive will prevent its spread.

Opportunity: Remove non-native invasive Black Locust trees, fennel and star-thistle to reduce competition with native species.

LEGEND

- Utility Structure (Power and Telephone Poles, etc.)
- Vegetation Communities/ Existing Features
- ▨ Steep Banks



Note: Map contours are shown in meters
 Contour interval = 3.75 meters (12.3 feet)

American River Watershed, California
 Long-Term Study
 Final Supplemental Plan Formulation Report/
 EIS/EIR

BUSHY LAKE SITE PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Sacramento District, Corps of Engineers
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